

REMARKS

The applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I (claims 1-9 and 11-25) and ask that the Examiner reconsider the restriction requirement in view of the present amendment to claim 10. Claim 10 is now dependent upon claim 1, and calls for a flooring panel manufactured by the method set forth in claim 1. According to 37 CFR § 1.475(b), “a national stage application containing claims to different categories of invention will be considered to have unity of invention if the claims are drawn [to a] product and a process specially adapted for the manufacture of said product.” Claim 1 is a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the product set forth by claim 10.

If any fees are due at this time, you are hereby authorized to deduct from the Deposit Account of Baker & McKenzie, No. 02-0400, any fees which may be required. *When identifying such a withdrawal, please use the Attorney Docket Number BER-101.*

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Respectfully,

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